

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 7 and 8 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because they are directed at neither a “process” nor a “machine”, and therefore overlap two statutory classes which may only be set forth in the alternative only. Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izumi (US 2002/0092992) in view of Isoda (2001/0015416). By this Amendment, Applicant is adding new claims 9 and 10.

Preliminary Matters

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant’s claim to foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

Applicant further thanks the Examiner for acknowledging acceptance of the drawings filed September 16, 2003.

Applicant also thanks the Examiner for considering and initialing the Information Disclosure Statement filed April 5, 2004. Applicant would respectfully request that the Examiner consider and initial the Information Disclosure Statement filed October 14, 2005, which corrected deficiencies noted in the Information Disclosure Statement filed September 16, 2003.

§112 and §101 Rejections

Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention. Claims 7 and 8 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because they are directed at neither a “process” nor a “machine”, and therefore overlap two statutory classes which may only be set forth in the alternative only. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claims 7 and 8 recite a method for producing the image sensor as found in claim 1 and claim 4, respectively. Claims are indefinite if they recite both an apparatus and the method steps of using the apparatus. However, these claims list the method for creating the apparatus in claims 1 and 4, not the method of using the apparatus. As such, the claims are directed only toward a process or method, and do not overlap two statutory classes. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

§103 Rejection

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izumi (US 2002/0092992) in view of Isoda (2001/0015416). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 1 recites:

a radiation detector layer formed of radiation detector particles which generate electric charges upon exposure to recording radiation and are dispersed in a polymer, and
an electric signal detector layer formed of detector elements each of which is formed on the surface of a plastic substrate for each pixel to detect the electric charges generated at the corresponding pixel in the radiation detector layer,
wherein the radiation detector layer and the electric signal detector layer are laminated one on the other.

The Examiner argues the combination of Izumi and Isoda teaches all of the elements of claim 1. However, neither Izumi nor Isoda, either individually or in combination with one another, teaches or suggests that a radiation detection layer, formed of radiation detector particles

dispersed in a polymer, and an electric signal detector layer, formed of detector elements formed on the surface of a plastic substrate, are laminated one on the other, as recited in claim 1 of the present application.

Further, the present invention comprises a capacitor formed of a pixel electrode, a pixel capacity cell and an insulating layer. While both Izumi and Isoda teach a capacitor, the references, either individually or in combination, fail to teach the structure of the capacitor in the present invention. Izumi discloses a capacitor, but does not disclose the structure of the capacitor. Isoda also teaches the use of capacitors, but similarly, does not disclose any structure for the capacitors. Therefore, the combined references do not teach all of the limitations of the claimed invention (see new claim 10).

Additionally, by forming the radiation sensor in the manner of claim 1, the sensor is highly resistant to impact.

The radiation sensor is mainly intended for portable use. By creating the present invention in the manner described in the claims, the sensor maintains a high resistance to impact and a light weight. These advantages, as well as being housed within a casing, are the essential for the radiation image sensor to maintain portability (see claim 9).

Therefore, because the applied references fail to teach or suggest all of the elements of claim 1, along with secondary considerations, claim 1 is patentable over the applied references. Claims 2-8 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application no. 10/662,328

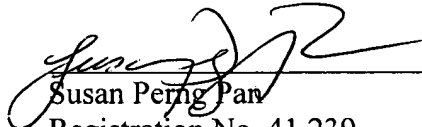
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q77506

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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